



Chapter 1a: Introductions

Eraser's POV

I woke up, my head spinning. Where was I? At home? As soon as I opened my eyes a little more, I saw a chalkboard, desks, almost everything that you would find in a normal classroom. Memories came flooding into my head.

I was in Hope's Peak! Did I fall asleep in class, or something? That would be bad, if there *is* a principle here. But, surprisingly, nobody else was in the classroom at all. Not even a teacher.

I got up, still a bit tired, and walked out of the classroom. There were no students in the hallways, and all of the classrooms were empty.
Where is everyone?

Also, even though the school was supposed to have five floors, the stairs were blocked off by a gate. At this point, the only room I haven't checked is the gym.

As I opened the door to the gym, I saw people of all shapes and sizes. They were standing there, facing a stage that was on the other side of the gym. Some of them were talking, and others were tapping their feet impatiently.

"What's going on?" I asked nobody in particular.

"That's what I've been asking this entire time." A girl with white hair and braids answered. "I'm Ice Cube, by the way."

Ice Cube: Ultimate Ice Skater

"I'm Eraser." I said, as I shook Ice Cube's hand in a friendly manner. "I'm the Ultimate Lucky Student, whatever that's supposed to mean."

"Luck isn't a talent!" A girl with red hair scoffed. "I, Match, have the greatest talent of all, anyway." She went on. "I don't have time to spend with losers like you."

Match: Ultimate Model

"Rude." I muttered under my breath. "Just because she's a model, doesn't mean she can boss us around."

"Ignore her." A girl with blue and green hair, and a small ponytail interjected. "She's just used to having everyone bow down to her." "By the way, I'm Book, nice to meet you!" She smiled.

Book: Ultimate Librarian

I smiled back at Book, and walked over to a muscular-looking boy with grey and white hair.

"What do you want?" He grumbled, not even making eye contact with me.

"I..I..just wanted to say hello." I stammered. This guy looked like he could beat me into a pulp in a few seconds! I should probably be careful around him.

"Well, hello, then." He muttered. "I'm Snowball, before you ask."

Snowball: Ultimate Bodybuilder

I rushed away from Snowball, hoping the bodybuilder didn't notice how fast I ran away from him. I saw Snowball cock an eyebrow for a second, but he stopped looking at me, after that.

A red haired girl with a few strands of grey on the ends of her hair rushed up to me with a clipboard in one hand and a pen in the other.

"What's your name?" "Your talent?" "Your birthday?" She asked quickly, not even giving me time to respond.

"Why do you need to know all of that?" I tilted my head in confusion at her.

"Oh, you see, a leader needs to keep track of all of her followers' traits!" She explained cheerfully. "And, I, Pin, the Ultimate Leader, am always on top of things!"

Pin: Ultimate Leader

I figured that I might as well answer her questions. "Let's see," "My name is Eraser, I'm the Ultimate Lucky Student, and my birthday is September 14th."

"Ultimate *Lucky Student*?" She gasped. "I never knew luck was a talent!"

"To be honest, I didn't either." I shrugged, waving goodbye to Pin, as I looked around for someone else to talk to.

I turned my gaze to a small corner of the gym, where a boy with light brown hair was shaking, his eyes wide and terrified, as he stared at the other students.

I ran over to the boy, and he screamed, like I had just murdered a puppy in front of him, or something.

"G-Go away!" He screamed, putting his hands over his head in fear.

"Why are you so scared of me?" I asked, confused.

"I-I'ts not j-just you.." He explained, still shaking. "I-I don't want to talk t-to anyone."

"Why?" I tilted my head at the small, cowering boy.

"J-Just shut u-up already..." He mumbled. "I-I only feel c-comfortable around animals, t-that's all you need to k-know about me." He insisted. "And a-also, my name is W-Woody."

Woody: Ultimate Animal Trainer

"N-Now please l-leave me alone..." He begged, his eyes wide and fearful.

I did what he asked, and turned my back on him. And as I did that, I bumped into a tan haired boy.

"Sorry!" I helped him up.

"It's fine, dude!" He grinned. "I'm Donut, by the way."

Donut: Ultimate Baker

"That's right!" I exclaimed, as I remembered who he was. "You're the one who owns that bakery in town!"

"That's me!" Donut smiled, rubbing his neck in proud embarrassment.

"How did they let someone that young own a bakery?" I asked, curious.

"Well, everyone was so impressed by my baking skills, that my age didn't matter to them anymore." Donut explained, his eyes gleaming with pride.

"There's a 98.3334% chance that you're lying about that!" A girl with long grey hair interrupted.

"Hey!" Donut yelled. "What makes you say that?"

"I can just tell." The girl answered simply, her voice devoid of any emotion. "And also I'm Golf Ball, the *Ultimate Scientist*, for crying out loud!" "I can tell by how much sweat was falling down your face as you told Eraser your little story."

Golf Ball: Ultimate Scientist

"Aww, man..." Donut sighed. "You got me." "I was only the bakery's manager because my dad gave it to me before he died." "You couldn't have let me have a little fun, though?"

Golf Ball frowned. "I don't *do* fun." Her voice was as cold as icicles.

"Why not?" Donut asked. "Scientists can have fun too, you know."

"And there's a 99.55556% chance that you're completely wrong." Golf Ball shot back.

I backed away as they bickered. I didn't want to get dragged into it.

I walked over to a girl with crimson hair who was having a chat with a copper-haired boy.

The girl had almost too many items of jewelry to count. She almost looked like a jewel herself.

"I'm Ruby!" She introduced herself. "I see that your eyes have fallen upon my beautiful jewels."

"Yeah!" I said. "They're really pretty." "Where did you get them?"

Ruby giggled a bit. "I didn't *get* them." "In fact, I made them myself."

She smiled.

Ruby: Ultimate Jewelry Maker

"Wow!" I exclaimed. "You actually make jewelry?"

"Of course!" She laughed. "I am the Ultimate Jewelry Maker, after all!"

Ruby turned to the copper-haired boy. "Eraser, this is Coiny!"

I shook hands with Coiny. "So, what's your talent?" I asked him.

"I'm the Ultimate Bank Teller." He grinned.

Coiny: Ultimate Bank Teller

"Honestly, I would rather be the Ultimate Trumpet Player." Coiny admitted. "Bank telling is actually really boring." "You would know if you did it every day of your life." "But playing the trumpet is fun, and I would like to think that I'm good at it."

"It does sound boring to me." I agreed. "Well, bye Coiny, bye Ruby, there's still some people I haven't met."

"You should try talking to Pencil next!" Ruby suggested. "She may not be the nicest, but she sure is a great artist!"

I nodded at Ruby and walked over to the light pink-haired girl that she was pointing at. "You're Pencil, right?" I asked.

"Yep!" She answered.

Pencil: Ultimate Artist

Pencil was a lot nicer than I expected. I was honestly expecting her to be more like Match. I watched as Pencil sketched something in her sketchbook.

She showed it to me, and it looked like an exact replica of a real cat.

"Wow, you're good!" I complimented her.

"Thank you!" She smiled, looking flustered. "Well, I'll see you around, I guess." She mumbled, looking down, as if she was trying to hide her emotions.

I stared after her, a bit disappointed. But I ignored the feeling, and walked over to a boy with spiky bright orange hair. It almost looked like fire.

"I'm Firey." He automatically said, as I approached. "Dude, I saw how you looked at Pencil." "I know how you feel about her." He smirked.

"W-What?!" I stammered. "No, it's not like that!"

"Keep telling yourself that." Firey shot a smirk at me, as he walked away.

Firey: Ultimate Chef

A yellow and white haired boy approached me, a friendly expression on his face. "Tennis Ball is my name, and playing tennis is my game!"

Tennis Ball: Ultimate Tennis Player

"I wish I could play tennis." I admitted. "Luck isn't even a talent."

Tennis Ball put his hand on my shoulder. "Maybe I could teach you one day." He offered.

"I would like that." I nodded, waving to Tennis Ball as I approached the last person that I needed to greet.

Her hair was dark green, and she had a huge smile on her face. As soon as I got close enough to her, she hugged me. "I'm Leafy!" She was practically shouting into my ear. "But, I don't even remember what my talent is..." She sighed, putting me down, as her face wore a sad expression.

"It's alright." I assured her. "You'll remember soon enough." I smiled.

Leafy: Ultimate ???

I opened my mouth to speak to Leafy again, when I heard an announcement.

"Everyone! Everyone! Pay attention!"

(Sorry, this introduction chapter is really bad wheeze. Sorry if your favorite character isn't in it. I only wanted 15 students. Anyway, I hope you enjoy, even though my writing is trash. :3)

Chapter 1b: Game of Survival

Eraser's POV

As I heard the strange, unfamiliar voice, I turned my gaze away from Leafy, and instead looked at the stage. A strange robotic number was standing on the podium. It was half black- half white and it was shaped like the number "four."

"Now that you're all acquainted, it's time you met me, the headmaster of Hope's Peak!" The strange number announced. "My name is MonoNumber, in case you didn't know."

"I was sort of expecting the headmaster to be an actual person." Book cocked an eyebrow, clearly as confused as I was.

"Hey!" MonoNumber exclaimed. "Just because I'm not a human, doesn't mean I can't be a headmaster!" He insisted, glaring at Book.

"Anyway," The number went on, as if the encounter with Book never happened. "We are very organized here at Hope's Peak, so I figured that I had to give an announcement regarding the school rules." "If you break any of those rules, the punishment will be worse than having lunch detention, trust me."

"What are these *rules*, then?" Golf Ball asked, growing impatient.

"I will tell you," MonoNumber assured her. "But first, I have to tell you the reason you are all gathered here."

"Weren't we gathered here because of our talents, or whatever?" Snowball grumbled. "That's what the letter said."

"The invitation letter may not have been *too* clear on why you're actually here." MonoNumber admitted. "Really, the reason is a lot darker."

Darker? I started to become nervous. *What was MonoNumber talking about?*

"So, basically," MonoNumber started. "I figured that Hope's Peak should be more fun. "Sounds very different from the other schools you've been to, right?"

"I would love a change, for once." Ice Cube admitted. "Well, I'm excited to here this fun thing you have planned for us!"

"So..." MonoNumber's voice got ominously quiet all of a sudden, until...

**"The fun thing?" "You have to kill each other, of course!"
"Everyone loves stabbing others in their free time, right?"**

In that moment, it felt like my world froze. Nobody made a sound. We were all registering what we had just heard. *It was a joke, right? A sick joke?*

The silence continued for a few agonizing seconds, until Ruby began banging on the gym walls, sobbing and wailing.

"LET ME OUT!" She sobbed. "GET ME OUT OF THIS PLACE!"

"Let you out?" MonoNumber stared at her as if she had grown three extra legs. "Well, unfortunately for you, you're all trapped in here, forever." "Well, unless you kill someone, that is."

"I'm not killing anyone!" Ruby screamed through her sobs.

"I do have an alternative, Miss Ruby." MonoNumber grinned. "All you have to do is promise to cut all ties with the outside world, and agree to live here in this school, in perfect harmony. " "No killing has to happen."

"I'm not staying here forever, either!" Ruby glared at MonoNumber, her eyes still filled with tears. "I have a family and a jewelry shop to look after!"

"I'm tired of hearing your annoying chatter." MonoNumber complained. "Now that Miss Ruby is quite done with her little rant, I

have to give you all your E-Handbooks."

I ran over to the pile of handbooks that MonoNumber had made, and dug around until I found my own handbook.

I turned it on and the screen displayed:

Name: Eraser

Gender: Male

Height: 5'6

Weight: 110 lbs

Talent: Ultimate Lucky Student

I went to the section marked: ***Rules***

Rule 1: Students may reside only within the school. Leaving campus is an unacceptable use of time.

Rule 2: "Nighttime" is from 10 pm to 7 am. Some areas are off-limits at night, so please exercise caution.

Rule 3: Sleeping anywhere other than the dormitory will be seen as sleeping in class and punished accordingly.

Rule 4: With minimal restrictions, you are free to explore Hope's

Peak Academy at your discretion.

Rule 5: Violence against headmaster MonoNumber is strictly prohibited, as is destruction of surveillance cameras.

Rule 6: Anyone who kills a fellow student and becomes "blackened" will graduate, unless they are discovered.

Rule 7 Additional school regulations may be added if necessary.

Rule 8 The blackened can only kill two students, if more than that punishment will be given.

My eyes locked on Rule 6. I kept trying to convince myself that none of us would ever kill anyone. *Would they? Do I really know them well enough to assume that they wouldn't kill anyone?*

These thoughts made me feel sick inside. We all came to Hope Peak, excited for our school life there. Now, we all looked at each other with fear and suspicion in our eyes. Even Leafy, who had been the friendliest of the bunch, was clearly unsure if she could trust any of us anymore.

We all went to our dorms. The silence that enveloped us was horrible. As we went separate ways into our rooms, I glanced back at Pencil. Her eyes were closed and she looked stressed. Clutching her sketchbook to her chest, she opened the door to her room, not even giving me a single glance.

I lay on my bed for a while, staring up at the ceiling. I would never go home again. I would never see my family again. I felt like I wanted to throw up.

This was a nightmare. It was all a bad dream.

But, when I saw a note slip under my door and read it, the cold realization hit me. This was not a nightmare.

This was a harsh reality.

Note:

Dear, Eraser

I have called everyone to the dining hall for a meeting. We will have it tomorrow at 10 A.M. I am calling this meeting, so we can discuss means of escape. I hope to see you there.

-Pin, the Ultimate Leader

(Henlo beans! Here's the new chapter. It's way shorter than the other chapter, sorry. Also, yes, the school regulations are word-for-word the regulations of Danganronpa Trigger Happy Havoc. :3)

Chapter 1c: Meetings & Exploring

Eraser's POV

I woke up to the sound of knocking on the door of my dorm room. It took me a moment to remember where I was, until the cold realization rushed back to me.

Trapped...

In Hope's Peak...

"Who's there?" I called drowsily.

"It's Pin." The voice answered. "You are the only person who hasn't come to the dining hall for our meeting yet!" "Hurry, we can't start without you!"

I opened the door to see Pin standing there, her clipboard in her hands still. "Come on, Eraser." She urged.

I followed the Ultimate Leader down the hallway, and into the dining hall. She was right. Everyone else was there, whispering and chatting among themselves.

"There he is!" Leafy immediately turned her gaze toward him. "We were waiting for you, you know?"

"Yeah, I heard." I mumbled. "Sorry, I was up all night, just thinking."

"Understandable." Leafy said simply, before continuing her conversation with Ice Cube.

Pin sat in the seat at the head of the table. "Listen up, everyone!" Her commanding voice somehow made us all listen to her. "We are here to discuss any possible escape routes!"

"C-Couldn't we j-just tear the metal plates o-off of the windows?" Woody stammered.

"Snowball already tried that, remember!" Ice Cube argued.

"Y-You're right, sorry..." Woody gave Ice Cube a defeated look, then looked down.

"Even if we do find an escape route, won't MonoNumber find out anyway?" Tennis Ball pointed out. "There *are* surveillance cameras, you know..."

Just then, MonoNumber popped up out of nowhere. I was so startled that I nearly leaped out of my chair.

"Yup!" "Absolutely!" MonoNumber confirmed. "I can see every part of this school, except the bath house and the bathrooms, of course!"

"I would expect a creepy guy like you to *like* seeing us in the bathroom." Ruby rolled her eyes.

"Well, I *would* look at you in the bath house at least, but unfortunately, the lens is always too foggy!" MonoNumber shrugged. "Well, anyway, back to watching your entertaining little meeting from behind the scenes!"

Then, MonoNumber disappeared as quickly as he had appeared.

"That thing he said about the bath house camera could be important." Pin whispered, so that hopefully MonoNumber couldn't hear her. "If there is an escape route in there, he would never know about it!"

"And if there isn't, what are we supposed to do?" Golf Ball questioned her.

"Well, Golf Ball, keep in mind that we still have to search the entire rest of the school for escape routes." Pin continued. "Who knows how many there really are?"

"I suppose we should check the rest of the school, then." Tennis Ball suggested. "We should split into groups, so we can cover more ground."

"Me, Firey, Snowball, Ruby, and Coiny can search together." Pin started organizing us into groups of five. "Book, Woody, Donut, Golf Ball, and Tennis Ball can also search an area together. "And that leaves, Eraser, Leafy, Match, Pencil, and Ice Cube." Pin finished, leading her group away.

"So, where should we search first?" I asked nobody in particular.

"Naturally, I'm the prettiest, so I should be the leader of this group." Match proclaimed. "Any objections?"

"We shouldn't argue with her." Ice Cube whispered to me. "Who knows what she might do to us later."

The thought of Match murdering one of us sent shivers down my spine. "No, Match." I said. "It's fine, you can lead."

"Good." Match huffed, turning away from us, and leading us down the hallway. She opened a green door, and we saw an incinerator, behind a sturdy gate.

"What's the point of a trash room if you can't even use the

incinerator?" Leafy tilted her head in confusion.

Again, as if he was summoned, MonoNumber appeared quickly and suddenly. "The person on trash duty takes out all of the trash in the building and dumps it in here." "That person also gets the key to the trash room." "It would be so boring if the killer could just burn all of the evidence, so I've only assigned one person to keep track of the trash."

"Who's on trash duty, then?" Leafy asked.

"How about you, Ice Cube?" MonoNumber handed Ice Cube the trash room keys. "Don't lose those, or I'll have to punish you, alright?"

With that threat, MonoNumber disappeared once again. Ice Cube was dumbfounded, staring at the keys in her hand with a puzzled expression on her face. Soon, she shrugged and put the trash room keys in her pocket.

I looked at Ice Cube warily. Being on trash duty meant that if Ice Cube decided to murder someone, she could easily burn the evidence in the incinerator. I tried to shake the thought from my mind. Ice Cube seemed so innocent and nice to murder anyone. She seemed more like the type to *be* murdered.

Even so, Ice Cube could be using her kind nature to deceive everyone. These thoughts made me feel sick and dizzy, so I decided to walk beside Pencil instead.

Eventually, the girls decided to check the girls' bathroom for any escape routes, so I went into the boys' bathroom. It honestly just looked like a normal bathroom to me, so I left very quickly. When I returned, the girls were shrugging and shaking their heads.

"I hope the other groups are having more luck..." Pencil sighed.

"I'm sure they at least found *something*." Leafy assured her.

I wanted to believe Leafy, but this floor of the school was not that large. So, there weren't a lot of rooms to check.

"Let's go farther down the hall." Match ordered, leading us into another room.

When we opened the door, we saw Pin's group. They were looking around the laundry room, looking behind every washing machine for an escape route.

"Did you guys find anything?" Pin asked, as we approached.

"No, sorry." I answered. "There weren't that many rooms to check."

After meeting up with Book's group, we all walked solemnly back to our rooms, discouraged after failing to find any escape routes.

I flopped onto my bed, and slowly fell asleep, not knowing what would be waiting for us the next day.

Chapter 1d: Motive Video

Eraser's POV

I woke up, blinking sleep out of my eyes. I looked around my dorm room, half expecting someone to jump out from the bathroom and try to kill me. I knew I was being ridiculous. Nobody could want to leave the school badly enough to murder another person. Right?

As much as I wanted to believe it, my mind kept flashing back to Ice Cube. She seemed so friendly when I first met her. But now that she has the trash room keys, I'm having trouble trusting her. And Ruby. She obviously wanted to get out of here more than any of us.

I shook the thoughts from my head and reached out to turn my doorknob and exit my room. But before my hand could even touch the doorknob....

"This is an announcement from headmaster, MonoNumber! Please gather in the AV Room on the first floor!"

MonoNumber's voice rang out through the monitors. Whatever he had in store for us, it couldn't be good.

I opened the door, seeing some of the other students walking out of

their rooms. I walked beside Pencil, who seemed like she was daydreaming. The expression on her face was emotionless, almost as if she was trying to distract herself from all of this despair.

"H..Hey, Pencil?" I tried to get her attention.

She jumped a bit, clearly startled at the sound of my voice. "Did you need something from me?" She turned to face me.

"I was just wondering why you seemed so...distant earlier." I said.

"I just...thought that if I distracted myself with other thoughts, I would forget where I was. I would forget the situation that I'm in." She admitted. "If I didn't, and kept thinking about this situation, I would drown in despair."

"Oh..." I was speechless for a moment. "Don't worry. If we all work together, we can find a way to escape without anyone having to die."

Pencil smiled at me. "That means a lot...Thanks, Eraser..."

"It was nothing, honestly..." I said, kind of embarrassed. I looked away to avoid any awkward eye contact, and entered the AV Room.

There was a random box on top of a desk in the room. I looked in the box, puzzled as I pulled out a DVD with my name on it.

What could this be?

I walked over to the DVD player, and sat in a chair while I looked the small screen in front of me. The screen was black at first, but soon, light flickered onto it, and an image that chilled me to the bone appeared on the screen.

The video showed my family. My parents and my two brothers were on the floor, clearly unconscious, or worse. Then, *his* horrible voice floated from the speakers.

"Ahh, they were just a normal family, living a happy, ordinary life. But then..."

Black flashed on the screen for a split second, before an image of MonoNumber appeared.

"Something, terrible must have happened to them!" "I wonder what could have caused this innocent little family so much pain."

I felt like screaming, as I saw the colorful words flash in front of me.

FIND OUT AFTER GRADUATION!

(Hello everyone! I apologize for taking so long on this chapter. But it took a while to get my computer hooked up to the Internet at my new house. I tried logging into my account from the Wattpad mobile

app, but it didn't work, so uh, I kinda took a while to finish. Don't worry, the next chapters will definitely not take as long to come out.)

Chapter 1e: Free Time

Eraser's POV

I went to my room and plopped down on my bed. I buried my face in my hands, as the scream that I had been holding in for a while finally escaped my mouth. I couldn't believe that MonoNumber would *kill my family*.

No! I shook my head. Why should I believe anything that the evil number had to say? My family could still be alive! I couldn't give into despair. Not yet.

With those words hanging in my head, I walked out of my room. There was still some time left before the nighttime announcement. I might as well get to know the other students here.

I was about to look around for someone else to talk to, before I bumped into something soft.

"Ah!"

I heard the yell, and looked down. I saw Ice Cube getting up and rubbing her arm. "I'm so sorry, Ice Cube!" I waved my hands in front of her nervously.

"It's alright..." Ice Cube winced. She looked nervous.

"Are you sure?" I asked. "Where were you going anyway?"

Ice Cube hesitated before she spoke. "I...I was looking for someone to talk to." She explained. "That creepy video scared me really bad. I just needed some company."

"I can keep you company!" I offered. "We could get something to eat from the dining hall...or something!"

"O...Okay...Thanks Eraser!" She smiled, as we walked to the dining hall together.

I felt at peace for the first time since I was locked in here, as we got donuts and drinks and sat down at a table. Ice Cube took a sip of her bottle of water before she spoke.

"So, Eraser..." She hesitated for a moment. "Have you ever had a crush on someone before?"

"Of course! I had a few crushes in middle school." I answered her. "What about you?"

"Well...There was this *one* boy." Ice Cube explained. "He always helped me with my homework. And he was a football player too."

I nodded. "He sounds like a nice guy..."

Ice Cube shook her head. "But he *wasn't*. Turns out he didn't like my ice skating hobby." She sighed as she remembered. "I slipped a love letter into his locker once, and invited him to ice skate with me, you know, like for a date. But he didn't come."

Poor Ice Cube. I thought.

"He did leave a note in my locker the next day. It said that he didn't want to spend time with a stupid ice skater." Ice Cube said. "I could still catch him glaring at me in the hallways sometimes." "Anyways, we should probably head back to our rooms now. MonoNumber's announcement is going to play soon." She stated, as she threw her paper plate and empty water bottle away.

As we went to leave the dining hall, I saw Donut watching us from the doorway. "Donut? What are you doing?" I asked, tilting my head at him.

"E-Eraser!" He stammered, as I had obviously startled him. "I-I just heard you and Ice Cube talking from my room. I was just making sure you two weren't planning a murder or anything." He narrowed his eyes at me and Ice Cube.

"I mean, it's understandable for you to be suspicious, I guess." I shrugged. "Well, Ice Cube and I are going back to our rooms now. You should too, before MonoNumber's nighttime announcement goes

off."

"I will. Go on ahead." Donut shrugged.

Ice Cube and I waved goodbye to Donut. I rubbed my eyes tiredly. "I hope the other students here aren't going to scream in their sleep tonight, because of those stupid videos." I muttered. "I really don't need to be woken up tonight."

"Don't worry!" Ice Cube assured me. "Even if someone did scream, you wouldn't hear it. The rooms are soundproof, remember!"

"Oh yeah..." I yawned as I said goodbye to Ice Cube and went into my room. I plopped down on my bed and went to sleep almost instantly.

Chapter 1f: Deadly Life

ding dong. bing bong.

It is now 7 AM! Time to rise and shiiiiine!!

Eraser's POV

I woke up to MonoNumber's annoying announcement. I yawned and rubbed my eyes, fully preparing myself for the despair that the robotic number was going to subject me to. I walked over to the door and turned the handle, and I was surprisingly greeted by Book and Pin's smiling faces.

"Why are you two so happy?" I asked in a sleepy voice.

"Donut had the best idea to help us cheer up!" Book exclaimed. "We're having a baking contest in the dining hall, come on!"

"It will be really fun." Pin told me. "I have been thinking of ideas to try and lighten up the mood, so we could bond, but it seems that Donut beat me to it." She shrugged.

"I'm not very good at baking, but if it helps to relieve the tension, then I'll gladly join in." I nodded, following the two girls to the dining hall.

When I entered, I saw that everyone was gathered around the table, with baking equipment, except for Snowball and Match. "Snowball didn't wanna come." Book said. "And I couldn't even get Match to come out of her room."

"We don't need people like them ruining our mood, anyway." Firey muttered, which led to him getting elbowed in the side by Leafy. "Ow!"

"You can't just say that about your friends!" Leafy yelled in his face, though it seemed more like playful scolding. I couldn't imagine Leafy actually getting angry.

I heard Firey say something about all of us barely knowing each other, before I turned away to get my own baking equipment from the kitchen.

"You can use my knife if you need it, Eraser." Pencil offered. "One of the knives is gone, so there aren't enough for all of us."

I smiled at Pencil and thanked her, before we both went to sit down together. I saw Woody, Coiny, and Ice Cube sitting at another table. They were probably the judges of the competition, as they obviously weren't baking anything.

I looked at the recipe book and picked out normal sugar cookies. They seemed easy enough. I poured the milk and flour into the large blue bowl, and started to stir with my wooden spoon. I saw Ruby messily stirring her batter, getting some on the table and even Golf Ball, who let out a tiny growl as a bit of batter splattered her cheek. "There's a 99.9999% chance that I am going to leave if you get one more drop of batter on me!"

"Calm down, GB." Coiny yelled from the other table. "It's just batter. It won't kill you."

Golf Ball looked about ready to go over to that table and punch Coiny square in the face, but Tennis Ball held her back, trying his best to calm her down.

I let out a small laugh as I saw them. We weren't quite friends yet, but we were definitely bonding from this event. Looking down at my batter, I saw that it was still too liquid. It looked more like milk than cookie batter. Donut, however, was already done with his and was adding sprinkles and frosting to his cookies.

Firey was in a close second, taking his cookies out of the oven, and walking back over to the table to decorate them. I wouldn't expect anyone to beat the Ultimate Baker and the Ultimate Chef. Pin kept dropping her batter bowl on the floor and had to start all over again.

She growled as she picked her bowl up for the fifth time that day.

Ruby was still messily stirring, until her aggressive stirring caused her to knock the bowl out of her hands and onto her red dress. "Dang it!" She groaned as the batter soaked her clothes. "I'd better go to the laundry room and wash this dress. I'll be right back." Ruby said, trying her best to stop the dripping batter from getting onto the floor.

"It doesn't matter anyway." Pin sighed. "Donut obviously won, right judges?" She turned to the three judges at the other table.

"W-Well....We've talked it over, and...." Woody stammered.

"Donut is the winner!" Coiny announced loudly, standing on the table, and throwing confetti at Donut. Ice Cube joined in with confetti of her own. We all cheered for Donut, but after a few moments, another loud sound joined our cheers.

"AAAHHHH!"

My heart skipped a beat at the sound. It was Ruby. And she was screaming.

"R-Ruby?" Woody's eyes widened in fear. "S-Someone save h-her!"

"Woody is right!" Pin announced. "Come on, she might be getting murdered!" The red-haired girl swiftly ran out of the dining hall and ran towards the room where the screams were coming from. The laundry room.

I followed closely behind Pin, my heart thundering in my chest. This couldn't be happening. We were having fun a few minutes ago!

Pin took a deep breath, then she opened the door to the laundry room, and when she did....

A sight that I didn't want to see greeted my eyes....

My eyes flitted over Ruby's trembling form, her eyes wide, terrified, and full of tears. Then, I saw it...Match, the Ultimate Model, the one who had been rude to all of us...Her body was leaned up against the

back wall, and a pink liquid was dripping from her throat...blood...

I felt like I wanted to throw up, when I heard it...

ding dong. bing bong.

A body has been discovered! After a certain amount of time, which you shall use however you like, the class trial will begin!

I trembled with fear, feeling like I wanted to pass out, burst into tears, and vomit at the same time. Match was never nice to me, but I still didn't want her to die.

Pin fell to her knees, breathing heavily. "I...I was supposed to protect everyone..." She looked as if she was fighting off tears that threatened to leak from her eyes.

Ruby let out a loud sob, burying her face in her hands. I heard footsteps coming closer to the laundry room. The others must have heard the body discovery announcement. I heard some of them gasp, even Snowball, who had been in his room before, came to the laundry room to see Match's body.

I only opened my eyes when MonoNumber appeared. "What do we have here?" The evil number laughed. "Match, the Ultimate Awful Person, is dead!"

I clenched my fist. "Shut up! Have some respect for the dead!" The words spilled out of my mouth in a blind rage.

"Chill out, jeez." MonoNumber sighed. "I'm only here to give you the MonoNumber File!" He announced.

"MonoNumber File?" Pin tore her eyes away from Match's body to look at the black and white number. "What's that?"

MonoNumber handed us all a file. "The MonoNumber File is basically an autopsy report, performed by yours truly. It tells you all the basic crap, like the time of death, external and internal wounds, and the name of the victim."

"So, you know who the killer is?" Donut asked, looking at

MonoNumber with wild, scared eyes. "Can you tell us?"

"Of course not! How boring would that be?" MonoNumber scoffed. "You have to find out in the super duper heart-pounding class trial!"

"Y-You keep mentioning t-this c-class trial." Woody murmured. "W-What is it?"

"The class trial works like this: All of you need to investigate anything relevant to the victim's death. Once you get into the trial room, you have to make arguments to decide who the killer is! If you get it right, the killer gets a super thrilling punishment, but if you get it wrong...then everyone except the killer goes bye-bye!" MonoNumber laughed as he finished his explanation.

"You'll really punish us if we get it wrong?" Ruby sobbed. "We aren't even detectives or anything, how can we possibly investigate a murder?"

"You'll figure it out, hon." MonoNumber waved his hand dismissively, as he disappeared, leaving us to look at each other with a mix of fear and suspicion in our eyes...

(Hello everyone! Yes, Match is the first victim! I know I didn't develop her character enough, and the killer is probably kinda obvious, but this is the first chapter anyway. Match was basically just a rude, entitled model. She's been that way for pretty much her entire life, since her mother first enrolled her in beauty pageants. The next chapter will be the investigation, and then the chapter after that will be the class trial.)

Chapter 1g: Investigations

Eraser's POV

We all just stood there, wide-eyed and terrified, as MonoNumber disappeared. Until, Pencil broke the silence.

"You all heard him, right? If we don't investigate and we get the killer wrong, then....we all die." She sighed. "We can't just sit here. We have to find the killer, for all of our sake and Match's!"

A small hopeful feeling was building inside of me, as I heard her words. I looked up from my feet and started to read the MonoNumber file.

MonoNumber File:

"The victim was Match, the Ultimate Model. She was found leaned against the back wall of the laundry room on the first floor of the school. The time of death was estimated to have been around 10:50 PM. Her cause of death was a crushed windpipe, as a result of strangulation. Her only external injury is a small slice on her throat that was inflicted by a sharp object, but it seems to have been inflicted after death."

Truth Bullet Obtained: MonoNumber File #1

I observed the file carefully. My eyes landed on the time of death. That was fifty minutes after Ice Cube and I left the dining hall. So, the killer must be, whoever doesn't have an alibi for that time period.

Truth Bullet Obtained: Time of Death

I held back my tears and the vomit that was trying to crawl up my throat, as I went over to examine Match's body. Her face looked

angry, and her hands fell in her lap. This made it look as if there was a struggle between her and the killer. She must have tried to fight back. I also noticed the scratch marks on the wall, behind her body.

Truth Bullet Obtained: Status of Match's Body

Truth Bullet Obtained: Scratch Marks

I was about to look around more, until Pencil tapped my shoulder. "Eraser, look!"

I turned to where she was pointing, and saw an empty water bottle laying in a pool of blood. I tilted my head at her. "Someone probably just forgot their water bottle in here, sometime before the murder." I said, shrugging.

Pencil sighed impatiently. "If the blood wasn't *underneath* the bottle, I could accept your explanation as the truth."

I was still confused. *What is Pencil talking about? If the blood wasn't underneath the bottle...?*

Still, she's right. something about it bothers me.

Truth Bullet Obtained: Blood Underneath Bottle

I felt like I had *seen* that empty water bottle before. The plastic bottle had a unique little wrap on it, with an image of MonoNumber as the logo. *Of course! This was a bottle from the dining hall fridge!*

While I was walking out of the room to check the dining hall fridge, I saw a strange, thin white string hanging down in front of my face. It was the clothesline that was hanging on the laundry room's ceiling. *Why was it broken and hanging down like this?*

Truth Bullet Obtained: Broken Clothesline

I walked to the dining hall, and went into the kitchen to check the fridge. I saw Snowball checking the fridge already.

"That's weird..." Snowball mumbled, scratching his head. "I'm sure there were ten bottles when I came here before."

"Did you find any clues, Snowball?" I asked, carefully approaching the bodybuilder.

"I think I found....something..." He narrowed his eyes, still focused on the water bottles in the fridge. "Last night, before MonoNumber's nighttime announcement, I came in here to get a bottle of water. There were exactly ten bottles when I came here last. I took one of them, so there should be nine bottles left, but instead, there are eight."

I nodded, carefully considering Snowball's words. I felt like I knew why there were only eight bottles if Snowball only took one.

Truth Bullet Obtained: Snowball's Account

I thanked Snowball for his account, was about to walk out of the dining hall. Until, a brown purse caught my eye. I went over to it, and dumped out the contents.

The only thing in the purse was a red book with the name "Ruby" written on the cover. I opened the book, and started reading the first page.

Dear, Diary

I'm enrolling in a baking camp this summer! It sounds way more fun than normal summer camp, with all of the bugs biting me and gross muddy ground. I'd like to think that I'm kinda good at baking, but every time I stir my batter, I end up getting it everywhere. Clumsy me!

-Ruby

Truth Bullet Obtained: Ruby's Diary

Could the killer have used this diary entry for something? It didn't seem likely. There were little to no clues in here that could point to the killer. I still helped to remember the page. There's a small chance that it will come in handy.

"Eraser! What are you doing?" I heard Ruby's voice yelling at me. She snatched the red book out of my hands angrily. "You can't just read my diary like that! That's an invasion of privacy!"

"Sorry, Ruby." I apologized sheepishly, leaving the room before I had to deal with Ruby's wrath.

I ran out of the dining hall, and bumped into Pencil. "Ouch..." She mumbled, getting up.

I looked away from her, embarrassed. I always manage to make a fool of myself in front of her.

"Eraser, remember what I told you about the missing knife?" She asked.

I nodded, remembering when she offered for me to use her knife earlier today, because one was missing.

"Well, I found it." Pencil held up the small kitchen knife. A little bit of the sharp edge was stained with Match's blood. "It was hidden behind a washing machine. So, the killer obviously didn't want us to find it."

If the knife was used to kill Match, then why is there only a tiny bit of blood on it? They couldn't have washed it, since the water turns off at 10 PM and the murder took place at 10:50 PM...

Truth Bullet Obtained: Kitchen Knife

"Thanks, Pencil." I smiled at her.

"You're welcome." She replied. "And also...I'd talk to Coiny if I were you. He found some very interesting items."

I decided to take her advice and talk to Coiny, who was still searching behind the washing machines in the laundry room. "Hey, Eraser!" He gave me an obviously forced smile. I wouldn't expect anyone to give me a real smile in this situation. "I found something!" He announced, holding up two things. One was a thin sweater that seemed too stretched out and torn for anyone to wear, and the other one was a small piece of paper with writing on it. Likely a note.

I observed the sweater, which looked more like a scarf at the moment because of how stretched it was. There was no blood on it or anything. I couldn't see why the killer wanted to hide it from us so badly.

Truth Bullet Obtained: Torn Sweater

Coiny handed the note to me, so I could read it.

Dear, Match

Can you come to the laundry room at at least 10:50 PM? There's something I want to talk to you about.

There was no signature that I could identify the killer by, and I only knew Ruby and Pin's handwriting, so I had absolutely no clue who wrote this note. This was obviously the note that the killer lured Match out with.

Truth Bullet Obtained: Note

"Thanks for the clues, Coiny." I thanked him, as I left the room. I saw Ice Cube panicking outside the laundry room door, muttering to herself.

"Are you okay, Ice Cube?" I asked her, putting my hand on her shoulder and trying to calm her down.

"I...I think the killer was trying to frame me..." She whimpered, shaking. "E..Eraser, just remember, that if you vote for me, we're all gonna die, so don't do it please." Ice Cube pleaded.

I knew very well that she could be the killer, but I didn't want that to be the case. In our little trip to the dining hall, she seemed so sweet and innocent. Plus, she's on trash duty, so she could have just burned the evidence instead of stuffing it behind washing machines.

"Why do you think that the killer is trying to frame you?" I asked, trying to comfort the trembling girl.

"J...Just, don't worry about me..." She demanded. "I just wish...I was awake to hear Match's screams for help. Then, I could have stopped the murder."

"You wouldn't have heard her anyway." I assured her. "Like you said last night, the rooms are soundproof."

"Oh yeah..." Ice Cube mumbled. "In all of the stress of being considered a murder suspect, I completely forgot about the soundproof rooms. Thanks, Eraser!" She smiled at me.

Truth Bullet Obtained: Soundproof Rooms

I was about to say something else to Ice Cube, before a noise interrupted me...

ding dong. bing bong.

Hellooo everyone!! It's time for the action-packed super duper heart-pounding class trial to begin! Please gather at the red doors on the first floor of the school!

(Hello! I spent a long time trying to plan out the murder case, the culprit, and pretty much everything. I know that the culprit is like...extra obvious now. But like I said before, this is only the first chapter. The murders in the other chapters will definitely be better. The class trial will be next chapter.)

Chapter 1h: The First Trial

Eraser's POV:

I dragged my feet slowly, as I walked toward the red doors. The doors gave off a threatening, horrible aura. I didn't want to go inside of the trial room, because I knew, that even if we avenged Match's death, we would still have to watch her killer get executed.

The thought made me want to throw up, but I choked down the urge, and opened the awful crimson doors. As I stepped inside of the room, I saw everyone else, standing in front of a huge, metal elevator.

"Hey! Cheer up, everyone!" Leafy weakly tried to reassure everyone, and hung her head when she didn't succeed. The others were sulking, clearly dreading this as much I was. But I knew inside that we would have to sacrifice someone, for the rest of us to survive.

"I...I don't wanna do this...." Ice Cube was shivering in terror, at this point.

Donut's eyes were wide in fear, and fixed on the floor, as if he didn't want to look up at anyone else. He was sweating and shaking, even more than Ice Cube was.

I gulped, as the elevator doors opened, and we all silently stepped inside, paying each other no mind. The metal box slowly made it's decent into a world of total death and devastation. Every second of it going down, made me feel as if it was dragging me further and further into despair.

(The class trial will be in uh,, I don't know that it's called, but

like, It'll be in "play format" I guess. Like if you were reading a play or something.)

MonoNumber: Welcome to the amazing trial room! Find your assigned seats, right now!

The place where Match would have stood, was replaced by a portrait with a bloody "X" on it.

Coiny: I have a question...

MonoNumber: *sighing* What is it, bank teller boy?

Coiny: Why is there a portrait in Match's seat?

Leafy: Yeah! That's really weird...

MonoNumber: I would feel sooooo BAD if she was left out, just because she DIED! So, I sort of, let her join this trial! In portrait form, of course! Anyway, it's time to get this heart-pounding class trial on the road!

Donut: Anyway, Ice Cube, just confess already!

Ice Cube: W-What? I didn't do it! I swear it wasn't me!

Donut: Oh come on! It's so obvious that you killed Match. Don't play dumb.

Book: Why are you so sure that Ice Cube did it?

Donut: Are you kidding me?! The evidence that proves it was left there at the scene of the crime, for anyone to see.

Book: What are you TALKING about?

Ice Cube: I-I promise...I didn't kill Match! You have to believe me!

Eraser: *Donut seems really sure that Ice Cube murdered Match...but is that really the truth?*

Make Your Argument!

Donut: Ice Cube is Match's killer...I have proof!

Book: Let's see this proof, then!

Donut: Let's see...that bottle near Match's body was Ice Cube's!

Pin: How can you tell? All of the bottles in the fridge are the same.

Donut: I know it's hers, because I saw her throwing away a bottle **before the announcement**, last night! So, she's suspicious!

Truth Bullet Fired: Time of Death

That's an incorrect statement!

Eraser: Hold on, Donut! If you were in the dining hall before the announcement, and the murder happened after, then Ice Cube would have to go past you after she had already gone back to her room.

Woody: W-Who ever said that Ice Cube w-went back to her r-room at all? S-She could have s-stayed in the dining hall u-until Donut left.

Eraser: Actually, I know that she went back to her room, because I was with her the entire time, before the announcement played.

Donut: Well, if Ice Cube isn't the killer, then how does that explain the bottle?

Golf Ball: This is getting us nowhere. Why does the bottle even matter? They couldn't have killed her with it.

Pencil: I'm not sure if the bottle was even used to kill her at all...

Firey: That's nonsense, Pencil! Why would it be at the crime scene otherwise?

Pencil: Maybe, the bottle was just...placed there for a different reason.

Golf Ball: Like I said, forget the bottle! We need to find Match's killer! And that person is...whoever doesn't have an alibi for the time she

was murdered!

Coiny: But, the murder happened when we were all asleep. Nobody has an alibi!

Donut: Yep! I was asleep in my room the entire time. I never came out of my room before or after the announcement.

Ruby: Personally, I was writing in my diary that Eraser was snooping in earlier. So, no alibi here! By the way, Eraser, I still haven't forgiven you for that!

Eraser: ...

Snowball: Forget the diary...Anyway, we have yet to clear up how Match actually died.

Pin: She was probably poisoned, right? Maybe someone put poison in her drink, and that's why the bottle was there!

Book: Nah, she was killed from the slice to her throat. We all know that a knife was missing from the kitchen, so that's obviously how she was killed.

Eraser: *Pin thinks that Match was poisoned, but Book thinks that her throat was sliced...Are either one of them right?*

Make Your Argument!

Pin: Come on, Book! Match was definitely poisoned. There's no doubt in my mind!

Book: What makes you say that?

Pin: The bottle at the crime scene...must have been **used to poison her!**

Truth Bullet Fired: MonoNumber File #1

That's wrong!

Eraser: Hold on, Pin. You can't say for certain that Match was

poisoned. In fact, the MonoNumber File says that her cause of death was: " a crushed windpipe as a result of strangulation."

Snowball: Of course. This shouldn't even need explaining. Did you read the file at all, Pin?

Pin: If you knew how she died, why didn't you just say it?

Snowball: ...

Pencil: Perhaps, he wanted us to figure it out on our own. I can see why.

Snowball: Ah, at least one of you idiots understands me.

Donut: If Match was killed from being strangled with a sweater, why was there even a slice on her throat?

Book: Maybe the killer just...sliced her throat to make it look like that's how she died.

Pencil: It seems that way. Of course, that's assuming that the MonoNumber File is telling the truth about the cause of death.

MonoNumber: Of course it's telling the truth! Your amazing headmaster would never lie to his students!

Golf Ball: Can we really just believe MonoNumber? There's a 93.9999 chance that he's lying.

Snowball: I'm sure we can believe him. He seems pretty adamant about keeping to his "rules."

MonoNumber: Yep! Yep! I'll never butt in unless someone violates a school regulation!

Pencil: Anyway...Enough with the talking robotic number. Back to Match's death.

Donut: Well, if it wasn't Ice Cube, it must be Ruby!

Ruby: W-What?

Leafy: Why are you doubting Ruby? She was terrified when she found Match's body!

Donut: Ruby was the first one in the laundry room. She had plenty of time to destroy any evidence that she left last night, when she killed Match.

Firey: I thought she went to the laundry room to wash her dress..I mean, we all saw her get batter all over her clothes.

Leafy: Yeah! We all saw it! Why would you blame her?

Donut: What if she purposely got the batter on her, so she could have an excuse to go to the laundry room.

Ruby: No I didn't! I...

Leafy: Leave Ruby alone, Donut!

Eraser: *Did Ruby really purposely spill batter on her dress, like Donut is suggesting?*

Make Your Argument!

Firey: Donut, what makes you so sure that Ruby was lying?

Woody: M-Maybe Donut is right...I mean, Ruby w-was the f-first one in the l-laundry room...

Donut: After I suggested the baking contest, Ruby formulated a plan, to **fake getting batter** on her clothes.

Truth Bullet Fired: Ruby's Diary

That's not right!

Eraser: Actually, according to Ruby's diary, she's super clumsy when it comes to stirring batter.

Ruby: As much as I hate to admit it, Ultimate Privacy Violator Eraser, is right.

Pin: Ultimate Privacy Violator? You should be more grateful! He's

defending you, you know!

Ruby: ...

Coiny: Um...We're kinda running out of suspects. Nobody has an alibi, and we do have a single clue that could point to who the killer is.

Woody: W-We're all d-doomed!

Pencil: No we're not.

Tennis Ball: Are you sure? I mean, we're out of leads, just like Coiny said.

Pencil: I know who the killer is...for me to confirm my suspicions, we need to focus on the weapon that was used to strangle Match. *Someone* said something suspicious earlier. They mentioned something that only the killer would know for certain..

Eraser: *Wait...I think I know what Pencil is talking about, and who the killer is...*

CLASS TRIAL INTERMISSION

(I finally finished the first half of the class trial! It took forever, but I finally got the first half done! The next chapter will definitely reveal who the killer is. If you have any guesses or theories on who the killer is, feel free to put them in the comments!)

Chapter 1I: The First Trial Continued

Eraser: *Pencil is right...the killer is right in front of us. And I think I know who it is.*

Pencil: Now do you see? We just have to prove it.

Firey: Who is it, then? Who's the killer?

Donut: It's Ruby, obviously.

Ruby: N-No it's not!

Eraser: The killer had to be someone who used what was written in Ruby's diary against her.

Leafy: And who could that be?

Snowball: It's pretty obvious, once you take a look at all the clues we've gathered so far.

Donut: Then, who is it? Who's the killer?

Eraser: The killer was clearly trying to frame Ruby. By making her go to the laundry room, where Match's body was, they tried to set her up.

Ruby: Yeah! L-Listen to Eraser! I'm not the killer!

Pencil: The culprit was also trying to set Ice Cube up, by placing the water bottle at the scene. There was clearly blood underneath the bottle, which means, Match was killed before the bottle was placed there.

Ice Cube: Who could have placed the bottle there? And who could

have used what was written in the diary against Ruby?

Snowball: Like I said, it really is quite obvious who the killer is. They made a slip up earlier in the trial, something that you could clearly call their undoing.

Firey: What is it? What did they say?

Coiny: Firey, you're so dumb! Just let Eraser, Pencil, or Snowball tell you! Stop interrupting with your annoying comments!

Firey: Hey! That was uncalled for!

Snowball: Stop with your childish squabble. Eraser, tell them who it is.

Eraser: Donut...You said something earlier in the trial. Something that doesn't make sense.

Donut: Huh? Me? What did I say?

Eraser: Earlier, you said "If Match was killed from being strangled with a sweater, why was there even a slice on her throat?" Nobody ever said anything about what was used to strangle her!

Golf Ball: That is true. Donut, how is it possible that you knew what strangled Match?

Donut: I-I'm sure we mentioned it at some point, right?

Pencil: No. We did not. So Donut, how did you know?

Donut: I-I...I DIDN'T KILL ANYONE! YOU HAVE TO BELIEVE ME!

Pin: Donut was also the one who suggested that we should have a baking contest. Maybe Ruby left her diary in the dining hall, and Donut looked in it.

Ruby: Really? ANOTHER privacy invader? Wow, I just can't believe you two!

Eraser: ...

Ice Cube: Oh yeah, didn't Donut also say something about "not leaving his room before or after the nighttime announcement?"

Donut: I...

Eraser: That's obviously a lie, since Ice Cube and I saw you, when we were leaving the dining hall.

Book: Donut, what were you doing awake at that time? And in the dining hall of all places.

Donut: I...I was just making sure Eraser and Ice Cube weren't planning a murder! Yeah! I heard them talking from my room and-

Pencil: How, if the rooms were soundproof?

Donut: ...

MonoNumber: Well, are we ready to vote now? Grab your lever and give it a yank!

Donut: W-WHAT?! N-NO! PLEASE!

Eraser's POV

I looked at the screen in front of me. It displayed the faces of everyone who was there, minus Match, who had died. I pressed my finger down on Donut's face, feeling sick as I knew that I was condemning Donut to death.

The tan haired boy was shaking, his eyes wide, terrified, and full of tears as he stared down at the floor. "Donut? Did you really...kill Match?" Leafy asked hesitantly.

"Why? Why would you do it?" Ruby demanded, tears in her eyes. "I know Match wasn't the nicest, but why...? Why did you start the killing?"

"I..I" Donut started shakily. "I just...wanted to see my mom one last

time....Just one time."

"Your mom?" Pencil tilted her head, as if the word sounded strange to her.

"She trusted the bakery to me, after my dad died." Donut explained. "I couldn't just...leave it."

"But you left it to go to this school." Golf Ball reminded him.

"I know but...this school guaranteed success later in life." Donut countered. "If I could graduate, then, they could never shut the bakery down."

MonoNumber interrupted Donut's explanation. "Don't go making up excuses for yourself! Murder is murder, whether or not your mommy is involved!" The robotic number laughed loudly. "Anyway, it's time for the best time! Punishment time!"

"W-What?" Donut finally looked up from the ground, his eyes bloodshot from crying. "You can't kill me! Please! I need to be there with my mom!" He begged.

MonoNumber just laughed louder. "Let's give it everything we've got! It's PUNISHMENT TIME!" The number's loud, annoying voice covered up Donut's screams of terror, as a metal collar attached itself around his neck.

The collar dragged Donut away, leaving the tan haired boy struggling and clawing at the collar, trying desperately to get it off. It dragged him onto what seemed to be a giant bowl, on an equally giant counter-top. Then, the execution name appeared, as MonoNumber appeared, wearing an apron.

Super Baking Frenzy!

Execution of the Ultimate Baker

I gulped. Whatever MonoNumber had planned for Donut, it couldn't be good. Woody was covering his eyes, meanwhile everyone else was watching, waiting nervously for something to happen.

Suddenly, MonoNumber brought out a mixer, and put it inside of the bowl, before pouring a large heap of flour into the bowl. They could see Donut on the screen, covered completely in flour, but otherwise, completely fine.

The despair-inducing robot number grabbed two giant eggs, cracking them into the bowl, before pouring milk in and turning the mixer on. Donut screamed, as he was painfully smacked around by the mixer, as it mixed the ingredients, including him, in the bowl.

Ruby and Ice Cube whimpered in fear, as they saw a pink smear in the bowl. Donut's blood. The mixer soon stopped, Donut's battered and broken body falling limply in the mixture. I turned away briefly, thinking that the execution was done.

"Look!" Pin yelled, pointing at the screen. MonoNumber had placed the bowl into the oven, clearly letting the mixture bake. The all watched in horror, as the number poured the now baked mixture into a container that read "Donut Cupcakes!"

"I-is it over y-yet?" Woody asked, peeking out from behind his hands. Nobody answered him. We all just stared blankly at what once had been our classmate, our friend. Donut was dead.

Surviving Students: 13

Chapter 2a: The True Meaning of Despair

(Hello! It's finally time for Chapter 2!! Thank you to everyone who supports and enjoys this story! I really appreciate it.)

Eraser's P.O.V

We all just stood there for, I don't even know how long. I couldn't believe what I had just witnessed. Was this the true meaning of despair? "Despair" was the kind of word I used to be able to say without fully understanding the meaning, but now I know...

All thirteen of us probably would have stood there for eternity, if it wasn't for Pin's sharp voice cutting through the silence. "Come on, everyone!" She commanded, trying her best to keep her voice steady. "We...We had better go back up there before MonoNumber gets angry with us."

We were all too tired to argue. Most of us nodded, and the others just quietly walked toward the elevator, ready to go back up into our lives of pure despair. The only one who didn't look like they were about to burst into tears was Snowball. The bodybuilder had his signature glare on his face, as always.

As we all exited the elevator, I thought that I could faintly hear the sound of a gate opening, but right now, I was too tired to care. I slowly walked into "The Despair Hotel" where my dorm room was, and I went inside.

I immediately buried myself under my blanket, trying as hard as I could not to sob after what I had just witnessed. I couldn't believe that both Match and Donut were already dead. Trying my best to

shake the horrible thoughts out of my head, I went to sleep. I didn't even care that the nighttime announcement hadn't even played yet.

ding dong. bing bong!

I woke up to MonoNumber's morning announcement. Yawning, I got ready and then went to the dining hall. Hopefully there would actually be other people there. I could understand why nobody would want to continue meeting up, after we found out that some of us are indeed capable of murder.

However, I could immediately tell that something was going on, as I heard yelling coming from the dining hall. Was somebody else getting murdered? I quickly ran into the dining hall, shoving the door open. And when I did...I saw...

Firey and Coiny glaring at each other? "Stop it! You two!" Pin demanded, pushing the two boys away from each other. "How are we supposed to find out what MonoNumber meant, if you guys keep fighting?"

"But he called me dumb!" Firey turned around to glare at Pin.

"No! Firey called *me* dumb!" Coiny growled. It looked as if a fistfight was going to break out, if someone didn't stop it.

"Please stop!" Leafy nervously cut in. "We have to work together! Like Pin said, how will we find out what MonoNumber was talking about, if we don't stop fighting with each other?"

Firey, who was seemingly about to make another snappy comeback towards Coiny, shut his mouth as Leafy finished speaking. "What did MonoNumber say?" I asked, confused as to what Leafy and Pin were talking about.

"MonoNumber came in earlier, while you were still asleep. He said something about "a whole new world" being opened up to us." Ice Cube explained. "We have no idea what he means, though."

"Then we should look around the school." Pin suggested.

I nodded, but frowned as I realized that Woody and Snowball weren't there. "Where are Woody and Snowball?" I asked. "They both went to the first meeting, and Woody went to the baking contest, so...?"

"Don't worry, Eraser." Pencil reassured me. "Woody literally barred his door with planks, and Snowball answered his door, but said that he didn't wish to join us."

"It saddens me just how little those two trust us." Ruby frowned. "I thought that after we worked together during the class trial, they would start warming up to us."

"The class trial might be the reason that they don't trust us." Golf Ball said darkly. "I mean, now the possibility of murder is fresh in their minds."

"Golf Ball, let's not bring that up." Tennis Ball gave her an uneasy expression.

"Yeah, GB! Chill out!" Coiny rolled his eyes. "Nobody else is going to commit murder over MonoNumber's dumb motives. We won't make the same mistake that Donut did."

"We can never be too sure." Golf Ball argued, but she didn't say any more to Coiny. I looked around uneasily at the others, as Pin ordered us to look around certain parts of the school.

I peeked into some of the classrooms briefly. Nothing had changed about them. But I finally saw what MonoNumber was talking about, when I went to look around in the gym. The gate that was blocking the stairs to the second floor was gone.

"So, lucky boy found the new world, huh?" I immediately jumped, as I was startled at MonoNumber's loud voice. "Calm down! Your face is as pale as the skin of a dead body!" The number laughed, as he made the comparison.

"I don't have anything to say to you, MonoNumber!" I growled at the robotic number.

"Sheesh! I was only here to add a new rule to your E-Handbooks!" MonoNumber announced.

"New rule?" I asked in confusion, as my E-Handbook vibrated in my pocket. The rule read **"Loaning your handbook to another student is strictly prohibited."**

"Alright! Have fun with that new rule!" MonoNumber soon disappeared, only leaving an echo of his annoying laughter.

I couldn't understand the purpose of the rule. Why would anyone want to loan their handbooks to someone else? I shook the thought away, as I walked up the stairs to the second floor. I saw a boy's restroom and a girl's restroom. Looking inside of the boy's restroom, I saw nothing out of the ordinary.

There was also an area that had the word "Pool" above the door. But when I opened the door, I didn't see a pool at all. It was only Ice Cube and Pin staring, perplexed at a pink door that was in the room.

"What's going on, guys?" I asked them. Pin turned to face me.

"MonoNumber just appeared and told us that these were the boy's locker room and the girl's locker room. If you try to go into the opposite locker room than your gender, that gun on the ceiling will annihilate you." She said, pointing up at a large gun that was attached to the ceiling.

"And he also said that if you try to loan your handbook to the opposite gender, you will be breaking the new rule!" Ice Cube added. "I guess, it's to make sure no boys peek on the girls while they're changing."

"I've already checked out the girl's locker room." Pin shrugged. "It's full of exercising equipment! Which is great, because a leader needs to train her body, mind, and spirit!" The red-haired girl said excitedly.

"Snowball would probably like it here, if he decides to come out of his room." I said. "He is the Ultimate Bodybuilder, after all."

"Yeah. But, I can't really see Snowball exercising in a public place like

a locker room." Ice Cube sighed. "He would probably prefer to do it in the privacy of his room."

I nodded in agreement with Ice Cube, really wishing that Snowball would trust us more. "Well, I'm going to check out the other areas now." Pin announced. "Ice Cube, you can look around in the main pool area, if you want!"

Ice Cube obeyed, pushing the door to the girl's locker room open. I walked out of the room, after Pin, who was sprinting down the hallways. I walked further down the hallway, and saw a door that looked a lot like a classroom door, but it had the word "Library" printed on a sign on the side of the door.

I opened the door to the library, and saw Book and Coiny looking around. Book seemed in awe at everything, from the desk in the middle of the room, to the bookshelves. And Coiny was seemingly frustrated as he attempted to turn on a laptop that was sitting on a desk.

"The stupid thing is busted! Won't even turn on!" He muttered angrily, jamming his finger down hard on the power button. "I was going to see if we could call for help on the computer, since our phones were confiscated, but it won't even switch on!"

"Well, it's obviously broken." I told Coiny. "It's better not to hurt your finger by slamming it on that computer."

"Whatever." Coiny sighed, stepping away from the computer. "It's not like there would be any internet access here anyway."

"Sorry Coiny! I couldn't find an Ethernet cable in the archive!" Tennis Ball apologized, walking out of another room that was in the library.

"It doesn't matter, anyway." Coiny shrugged. "The computer's broken."

I left the two to decide what to do about the laptop, and stepped out of the library. As I walked around, I saw Pencil, Firey, and Leafy, who were trying to yank the metal plates off of the windows.

All three of them grunted with the effort, as they tried to pull the

plate off. Firey broke off, panting. "H..Hey Eraser." He breathed out.

"It's useless." Pencil decided, letting go of the plate. "The mastermind wouldn't just leave a loose plate around."

"Maybe Snowball could get them off!" Leafy suggested. "He's strong!"

"Knowing him, he's probably been up here already." Pencil said. "He may be rude, but he's not dumb."

"It's not like he would help us anyway." Firey sighed. "He wouldn't even come to the dining hall meeting."

"Where's Ruby?" I asked the three students, trying to switch the topic from Snowball's distrust of everyone. We couldn't be doubting each other yet.

"I'm not sure." Pencil admitted. "She's probably either in one of the classrooms or back in the dining hall."

I nodded at Pencil, walking back toward the stairs to the first floor. As I walked down them, I thought: *Why couldn't Snowball and Woody just work with us?*

Chapter 2b: Friendships and Fights

Eraser's POV

That morning, I woke up not because of MonoNumber's announcement, but because of my doorbell ringing. I rubbed my eyes tiredly and went over to the door. "Who is it?" I mumbled sleepily, laying my hand on the doorknob.

"It's Pencil." A quiet, calming voice came from the other side of the door. "Let me in. I won't hurt you."

I opened the door, fully believing her claim, for some reason I couldn't put my finger on. "Are you okay? Did something happen?" I immediately shot the questions at her. Her face was as calm as always, but somehow, I could tell that *something* was going on.

"Don't worry." Pencil told me. "It has nothing to do with me. Pin told me to come get you. That's all."

Pin? What could Pin want right now? Before the dining hall meeting? Those thoughts floated through my head, as I hesitantly followed Pencil to the dining hall. I felt uneasy, but not as uneasy as I felt right before the first class trial.

As I stepped into the dining hall, I saw a similar scene as what happened during yesterday's dining hall meeting, but the only difference was...the screaming that everyone else except Pencil was doing.

"Eraser! Help! Quickly!" Book cried. "Coiny is killing Firey!" She pointed toward the middle of the room, where Coiny was holding Firey down, pointing a knife toward his throat.

"Stop!" Pin demanded, pulling Coiny away from Firey. "I thought we talked about this!"

"Sorry, Pin..." Coiny mumbled. "Firey is just...too irritating. I don't know how I can keep my promise anymore."

"What promise?" I narrowed my eyes at Coiny and Pin. There was obviously *something* going on between them.

"I...I made a promise to Pin yesterday. We ran into each other while we were searching the second floor for escape routes." Coiny explained. "She told me to promise to never hurt Firey too badly and if I kept it, she would be friends with me."

"Why were you so desperate for Pin to be your friend, in the first place?" Golf Ball asked. "Were you really so desperate for a friend, that you would promise not to harm your rival?"

"Well...Donut and I were sort of close, before he died." Coiny admitted. "We would talk sometimes before the dining hall meetings, and....I just wanted to have a friend like that again."

"Oh! Nobody cares about your sob story, you psycho!" I heard a voice coming from the kitchen. It didn't sound friendly. I saw Firey dart out from the kitchen, a knife bigger than the one Coiny had in his hands.

"Firey! Calm down-" Pin was cut off, as Firey shoved her away from Coiny, and jumped onto him.

"How could you try to kill me?" Firey growled, positioning the knife above Coiny's throat. "You're the dumb one, if you thought that you could just get away with it."

"We can't keep killing each other! That's what MonoNumber wants to see!" Ruby's voice was nearly a sob, as she watched the scene in front of her. "You can't really want to kill each other over a few insults, can you?"

"It's not just a few insults!" Firey loosened his grip on Coiny. "He tried to kill me! We can't have someone like this running around!"

To stop Firey from stabbing the knife into Coiny's throat, and

committing the second murder of our school life, it took me, Pencil, and Tennis Ball to haul him off of Coiny.

"Get off of me-" Firey twisted around, about to stab Tennis Ball. But the tennis player, quick as lightning, twisted his arm away, causing Firey to let out a grunt of pain, as he dropped the knife.

Any opportunity that Firey had to retrieve the knife vanished, as Pencil picked it up and immediately took off towards the dorms. "Give that back!" Firey's struggles lessened as both me and Tennis Ball tightened our grips on his arms.

Pin helped Coiny to his feet. The copper-haired boy's eyes were wide with fear.

"What will we do with Firey now?" Ice Cube asked. "We can't just leave him wandering around! He might murder Coiny!"

"Maybe we should tie him up?" Golf Ball suggested. "I've got some rope in my room that we could use."

Pin frowned as she stared at Firey, who looked horribly tired and in pain after his outburst. "I don't really like the idea of tying up our friend. But if it keeps everyone safe, I guess it's for the best." The red-haired girl sighed.

"Golf Ball, you can go ahead and get the rope. Tennis Ball and I will keep him here." I nodded toward the scientist. Golf Ball immediately took off.

She came back a few minutes later, a bundle of rope in her hands. "I have the rope! And by the way, I ran into Pencil on the way here. She said that she will come by later to confiscate all of the knives."

"We should just tie Firey up in here, so he can at least be at the dining hall meetings." Ruby suggested, still looking frightened from what she had just witnessed.

"Why do you have to tie me up at all?" Firey struggled a bit against Golf Ball and Ice Cube, who were tying his legs together. "I'm fine! I'm not crazy!"

"Your actions today would suggest otherwise." Book shook her head. "Seriously! You nearly killed Coiny with that knife!"

"We can't keep Firey tied up forever, though." Pin stated. "So I, as the Ultimate Leader, have a proposal to make!" She announced.

"What is it?" I heard an irritable voice coming from the entrance to the dining hall.

"Snowball?" Coiny turned his head to look at the Ultimate Bodybuilder, who was standing in the doorway. "I thought you weren't coming to the meetings anymore."

"I'm not." Snowball rolled his eyes. "I'm only here to see what all of this nonsense about tying Firey up was. He has never struck me as the insane type."

"Well, he literally just tried to kill Coiny, so apparently, he's not as sane as we originally thought. Which is why, before you so rudely interrupted me, I was going to make a proposal." Pin explained, clearly annoyed.

"Go on." Snowball sighed. "But be quick, because I am not staying in here for much longer. I can't stand to be around all of you small-brained mice."

Pin ignored the insult and began speaking. "Well, since we obviously need Firey and Coiny to get along, so they aren't attempting murder on each other all the time, I have a suggestion. I think that all of the boys, including Firey should do daily bonding sessions in the locker room!"

"I'm not doing that. Goodbye." Snowball huffed, sprinting out of the dining hall, as if his life depended on being away from us.

"Well, at least Coiny and Firey will have Eraser and Tennis Ball's supervision, in case they get into another fight." Pin went on. The two of us nodded at her.

Firey and Coiny's road to friendship would be a difficult one. But I hoped that with the support of me and Tennis Ball, it would happen eventually.

Chapter 2c: Building Trust?

Eraser's POV

The next morning, after MonoNumber's announcement played, I went to gather the other boys for our first meeting in the locker room. I wanted to curl up in my room forever, though I knew that Pin would be angry with me, if I didn't comply with her orders.

I had attempted to get Snowball to join us. However, the Ultimate Bodybuilder stated that he didn't wish to spend time with worthless people like us.

"Why won't Snowball and Woody trust us?" I asked suddenly. "I just don't get it..."

Tennis Ball sighed. "I can't exactly blame them, considering the fact that Donut decided to murder Match."

I wanted to protest, to say that none of us would ever kill anyone. But I knew that I hardly knew these people. Would anyone else here really murder anyone else? What about Leafy? We don't even know her talent. All of these thoughts made my head spin so much, that Tennis Ball had to snap me back into reality.

"Don't stress too much Eraser. If you let the madness of this situation get to you, that's just another way of giving into despair." Tennis Ball told me. "Now, wipe that frown off your face. We have to go get Firey."

As we both walked into the dining hall, we were greeted by Leafy, who was kneeling next to Firey on the ground. "Hey Eraser and Tennis Ball!" She smiled at us. "I was feeding Firey some soup, since, you know....his hands are tied up."

Firey looked at us and glared. "Not to be rude or anything to Leafy,

but she cannot make soup to save her life. I wish you guys would untie me, so I can make my own food!" He struggled, clearly trying to untie his hands.

"It's not their fault that you tried to kill Coiny!" Leafy protested, still looking a little hurt from the comment about her soup-making skills.

"I'm not insane or anything!" Firey insisted. "I was just a little angry. I saw the knife and I wasn't really thinking."

"We would like to believe you, but...." I trailed off.

"But what? You just can't? Is it because of the killing game?" Firey shot the questions at us in an angry frenzy.

"Come on, Firey." Leafy frowned. "Eraser and Tennis Ball just want to help you. Just listen to them."

"Fine." Firey grumbled. "Untie my legs, so I can walk to the locker room, at least."

Tennis Ball and I complied and untied the boy's legs. "Now get up. No funny business, alright?" Tennis Ball helped Firey to his feet.

"I'm sure he won't go around murdering anyone." I nodded to Tennis Ball.

All three of us walked to the second floor of the school, where the locker rooms were. As Tennis Ball opened the door to the boy's locker room, we saw Coiny inside, obviously waiting for us. As soon as he saw Firey, the copper-haired boy's eyes widened in fear.

"It's alright, Coiny." I comforted him. "He doesn't have a knife or anything. Plus his hands are still tied up."

"I guess...that's true." Coiny mumbled nervously, still keeping his wary eyes on Firey. "Let's just...get this over with."

I was glad to see that at least, Coiny was more nervous around Firey than angry. I wanted them to trust each other, but at least they weren't fighting too much anymore.

We only got to work out for a few minutes, as we heard a scream coming from outside of the room.

"AHHHHHHH!"

"Wasn't that...Woody?" Tennis Ball recognized the Ultimate Animal Trainer's voice.

"Did somebody die?" Firey's eyes widened, as he suggested the horrible idea.

"Let's help him!" I said, immediately sprinting out of the room to see.....

Woody was trembling more than usual. In fact, he looked as if he was about to faint. And then I saw....Snowball. The bodybuilder was on the ground, covered in blood.

"Snowball! Are you okay?" Tennis Ball ran up to him, immediately kneeling next to him and checking his pulse. "He's alive." The tennis player announced, letting out a sigh of relief.

"What happened here, Woody?" I asked the shaking boy beside me.

"I....I j-just wanted to go in the girl's locker room...." Woody started. I was puzzled. Why would he want to go into the girl's locker room in the first place? Was he up to something?

"A...And then...." Woody continued. "I got S-Snowball to bust the d-door down for me. B-But MonoNumer's gun s-shot him a bunch of times!" He wailed, burying his face in his hands.

I looked up at the gun on the ceiling. It was pointing right at the place where Snowball now lay, curled up on the ground. Then suddenly, MonoNumber appeared out of nowhere. He looked angry.

"I'm really angry!" The robotic number growled. "Don't break down locked doors, or you'll end up like him!" He snarled, gesturing toward Snowball with his robotic hand.

My E-Handbook vibrated. But I was too shocked to even focus on the new rule that had been added. All I could do was stare in silence at

MonoNumber.

"But he didn't know about the rule! You hadn't added it yet!" Firey protested.

"You have to keep him alive!" Coiny added. "It's only fair, MonoNumber!"

MonoNumber glared at the two boys. "Fine! Fine! Fine! I'll save him!" And with that, MonoNumber dragged Snowball away, presumably to the Nurse's Office.

All five of us just stared after them. We were too shocked to say anything much.

"Should I get Leafy to help me tie Firey's legs back up?" Tennis Ball asked hesitantly. "You look like you need to take a break in your room."

I just nodded at him, my brain too frazzled to say anything. As I retreated back into my room, only one thought spread through my mind like ice.

Is Snowball going to be okay?

Chapter 2d: Apologies and Motives

Eraser's POV

I'm not even sure if I slept at all last night. Or if I just lay awake in a daze. If I did happen to fall asleep, how did I do it, after what happened to Snowball? Was he going to die?

I finally dragged myself out of my bed. My legs felt heavy, as if they were going to buckle beneath me at any moment and I would fall to the floor, on my knees. I knew I had to get to the dining hall for our breakfast meeting.

As I finally made my way to the dining hall, I walked in to see everyone surrounding something. No. *Someone*.

It was Woody.

The shaking boy stood in the middle of the circle that everyone else was making. "Everyone, we should give him some space, otherwise he won't tell us why he's here." Pencil suggested. Pin nodded in agreement, and motioned for everyone to back away from Woody.

"Take your time, Woody." Ice Cube gently urged. "We'll listen to you, I promise."

All eyes turned to the Ultimate Animal Trainer, as he began to speak. "W-Well...I'm here b-because..."

"Go on." Golf Ball grunted impatiently. It was clear that she'd rather be somewhere else. Ruby was mouthing something at the scientist. She was most likely telling Golf Ball to be nicer to Woody.

Woody took a deep breath, and then continued. "I-I just wanted to...a-

apologize."

"Apologize for what?" Tennis Ball asked.

"Will you guys just shut up and let Woody speak?" Pin glared at Golf Ball and Tennis Ball.

"Sorry, Woody." Tennis Ball tipped his head awkwardly toward the brown-haired boy.

"Sorry...I guess." Golf Ball muttered.

Woody nodded at them, probably trying to tell them that it was alright. "I-I'm sorry for p-putting Snowball in that s-situation. A-And to honor h-him, I'm going to come to the dining hall meetings." A confident glare had fixed itself on the animal trainer's face.

"What do you mean? Are you saying that *you're* the reason for Snowball's injury?" Pin asked incredulously.

"I-I just wanted to use his handbook to get i-into the boys locker room..." Woody stammered. "B-But when he g-gave it to me, MonoNumber's gun shot him full of holes!" The small boy shuddered at the memory.

We all looked at each other exchanging glances. It was clear that the same question was on all of our minds.

Why couldn't Woody just use his own handbook to get into the locker room? Why use Snowball's?

"Whatever his reason is, he's still the cause of Snowball's injury. It's all his fault that Snowball isn't here with us." Golf Ball glared at Woody.

"Golf Ball! How could you say something like that?" Pin yelled at her.

"Stop fighting!" To my own surprise, I raised my voice above Pin and Golf Ball's yelling. "We need to stick together as friends. We need to forgive Woody and move on."

"Eraser is right." Pencil stepped up to stand beside me. "MonoNumber wants us to fight. We can't give into his desires."

"What was that about not giving into my desires?"

As we all heard that voice, we turned to look at the robotic number.

"Well, since you're sooooo determined to not fight, I've got a solution for that!" MonoNumber announced, throwing a bunch of envelopes to the ground. I picked up the one with my name on it.

"What's in these?" Book asked curiously.

"Embarrassing memories and secrets!" MonoNumber announced darkly. "If a murder does not occur in twenty four hours, every last one of your secrets will be revealed to everyone!"

We all stared in horror at the envelopes.

"How did you find out about this?" Ice Cube looked like she was about to cry, as she saw what was in hers.

I quickly opened mine and saw...

Eraser cuddled with a teddy bear every night, until 7th grade.

I stared in confusion. How was this supposed to drive me to murder one of my friends? I mean, it would suck if they found out, but it was only a little embarrassing. Obviously not worth killing over.

However, all of my tranquility melted away as I looked around at everyone else. Some people like Golf Ball, looked as if they didn't care. Meanwhile, Ice Cube and Ruby looked like they wanted to burst into tears.

I don't know everyone else's secrets. *Could someone really have one that is worth killing over?*

Chapter 2e: Regrets, Regrets

Eraser's POV

I sighed as I shut off my E-Handbook. Ever since the new motive had been announced, I felt as if something was very wrong. My secret...wasn't worth killing over...

Or was it...?

I growled as that little voice in the back of my mind taunted me mercilessly. Covering my ears didn't seem to block out the echo of the voice through my mind. I hated it. Nothing could make me snap and kill my friends....could it?

Getting up from my bed, I decided that the only course of action was to take a walk. Yes...I would take a walk to clear my head. Hopefully nobody would suspect anything of me. After all, Donut creeping into the dining hall so late at night caused him to be caught in the last trial.

Donut...

I gritted my teeth and squeezed my hand until my knuckles turned white. I had barely even started with my little walk, and I was already being hit with the urge to fall to the floor and sob for the boy I had never gotten to know. And I regretted it.

I bit my lip.

I regretted it more than anything. Maybe if I had gotten to know, or even befriended Donut, Match wouldn't have died...Donut wouldn't have killed her....

The other, rational side of me reassured me that I couldn't have stopped it, no matter what I did. Even Coiny mentioned that he was

close with Donut at one point. Close enough to consider him a friend, and even close enough to desperately seek out Pin's friendship once his old friend was executed.

"Hey.."

I turned around in a daze, grabbing the nearest thing I could find to defend myself with. A metal pole...perfect. I hadn't even noticed that I had entered the warehouse, at that point. I was too regretful...too confused.

The pipe swung along with my hands, smashing hard into something. I saw a crimson flash as I pulled the pipe back toward me and I heard a loud cry of pain, and the sound of someone hitting the floor with a loud thud.

I dropped the metal pipe, the clinging sound ringing in my ears as it fell next to my feet. My shaky gaze finally rested on the person I had just attacked.

Pencil...

My entire body immediately froze. "Pencil...I..." I attempted to explain. But the words caught in my throat, as if I had attempted to swallow knives.

"I see..." Pencil, rubbed her head, which was bleeding heavily from the hard blow she took. "I never took you for..." Her sentence was cut off as a trail of blood flowed from her mouth. Gagging and coughing, she clung to her chest.

"Pencil!" I cried out, rushing over to her, as I noticed that she was about to collapse.

What have I done...?

I blinked back tears, as I caught Pencil in my arms, keeping her from falling to the floor and hurting herself even worse. This was my fault...I was causing despair....

I carried her to the Nurse's Office in a daze, only stopping as I heard an annoying, loud voice from somewhere behind me.

"Well...Well...Well..." MonoNumber sang, narrowing his eyes at me. "I never took you for the murderous type, Eraser!"

"I'm *not*!" I snapped, feeling the urge to punch MonoNumber into a wall. Tears streamed down my face, as I realized that I still had Pencil in my arms. Her blood was dripping onto the floor. I would have to clean it up later...Like a killer...

"Why are you bringing your victim to the Nurse's Office?" MonoNumber tilted his robotic head curiously. "What's the point?"

"Pencil's *not* my victim!" I growled, my grip on Pencil tightening. I could feel her twitching in pain, as her head wound still bled. I was running out of time...

"She's more than that..." I continued, urging MonoNumber to disappear.

However, the robotic number stayed exactly where he was, smirking as he pulled out the metal pipe from earlier. "You could always...*finish the job*...." His red eye glowed in an ominous manner. He held the pipe out toward me. "If she really means that much to you, won't killing her bring you the most *Ultimate Despair*...?" MonoNumber's voice became sickly sweet, as he talked about despair.

"Don't you think you deserve the pain after basically *killing* Match and Donut? It was your fault..." MonoNumber smiled, looking as if he was holding back the urge to laugh.

I steeled myself, dropping Pencil gently onto the ground. She was defenseless and completely out of it. I grabbed the pipe from MonoNumber with shaky hands.

I deserve this...

The despair...

The regrets...

(To all of the people who read this book: I am so sorry for taking so long to actually write and post another chapter. I wasn't expecting people to actually read this, so figured that I wouldn't really have to work on it very much. But it turns out that people do enjoy reading it!! Thank you all so much for the support on this story, despite the long break I took from it!! And sorry for leaving you on a cliffhanger. But don't worry, you'll find out what happens with Eraser and Pencil next time. Feel free to leave your thoughts, opinions, theories, and whatever else in the comments below!!)